

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 were pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 2 have been canceled herein. Thus claims 3-12 are now pending. The applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The applicants note with appreciation the acknowledgement of the claim for priority under section 119 and the notice that all certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

Claims 1, 2, 5, and 7 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by Jin et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,654,683 B2. Claims 1 and 2 are canceled herein and will not be discussed. Claims 5 and 7 are amended herein to depend from claims 3 and 6 which are indicated allowable if rewritten in independent form and are so amended herein.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 5 and 7 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

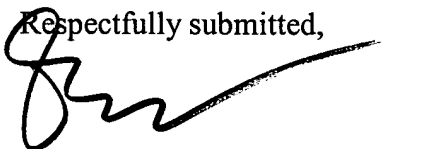
Claims 3, 4, 6, and 8-12 are indicated allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. Claims 3, 6, and 8 have been accordingly amended herein and are therefore allowable. Claims 4, 5, 7, and 9-12, by virtue of depending from claims 3, 6, and 8 are also therefore allowable.

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In view of the foregoing, the applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. A timely notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If questions relating to patentability remain, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

Please charge any unforeseen fees that may be due to Deposit Account No. 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. L. Scott, II', written over a horizontal line.

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